Cost of extraction of minerals varies from mine to mine. However, the cost of extraction for metallic minerals ranges between Rs. 100 to Rs. 7000 per tonne and for non-metallic minerals from Rs. 19 to Rs. 18640 per tonne approximately on all India basis.

Request for amendment in MMDR act

1412. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Minister of Mines, Government of Rajasthan had requested his Ministry for amendment in Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 and to delete part 'A' and part 'C from Schedule-I of the said Act;

(b) if so, whether Government have set up any High Powered Committee to examine/give fillip to private investment in mining sector;

(c) the details of the recommendations made by the Committee; and

(d) whether Union Government propose to empower the State Government for better and timely development of State mineral resources and exempt them from seeking prior leasing approval of Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A High Level Committee (HLC) under the chairmanship of Shri Anwarul Hoda, Member, Planning Commission was constituted to review the National Mineral Policy and recommend possible amendments in the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 to give a fillip to private investment in the mining sector. One of the terms of reference of the High Level Committee was to suggest the changes needed for encouraging investment in public and private sector in exploration and exploitation of minerals. The report of the High Level Committee containing the recommendations is available on website of Ministry of Mines , *(www.mines.nic.in).* Based on the recommendations of the High Level Committee and input from stakeholders, National Mineral Policy, 2007 is under consideration of the Government.